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LETTER DATED 9 APRIL 1997 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF ZAIRE TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit herewith, for the information of the members of the Security Council, the communiqué issued on the conclusion of the general discussions on the situation in Zaire which took place in Pretoria, South Africa, between the two Zairian delegations.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) KHABOUJI N'ZAJI LUKABU
Minister Plenipotentiary
Deputy Permanent Representative
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex

[Original: English and French]

COMMUNIQUE

In the general discussions which took place from 5 to 8 April 1997, and during which the two Zairian delegations, namely the delegation of the Government of Zaire and that of the Alliance of Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Congo-Zaire (ADFL), made their presentations on the situation in their country, the following points of convergence emerged:

1. Though the parties had different views on the nature and origin of the crisis in Zaire, they agreed on the fact that there were serious issues of political structures and governance which must be addressed as a matter of urgency.

2. Both parties agreed on negotiations to bring about a peaceful, political solution to the conflict. This necessitates a complete cessation of hostilities and other measures consistent with the implementation of the UN/OAU Peace Plan.

3. Both parties expressed their commitment to the principles of territorial integrity, inviolability of borders and the unity and sovereignty of Zaire within recognized international borders. They agreed that this was not an issue between them as they both shared this commitment.

4. The parties underlined the need for fundamental and democratic change in Zaire. In this regard, they concurred on the need for a process of transition leading to transparent, fair and inclusive elections which would be organized and supervised by an independent body and monitored by the international community.

5. The parties considered that peace and stability, both in Zaire and in other countries in the region, were crucial for peace in the region as a whole. Therefore, it was important to examine ways and means of promoting good relations between States in the region.

DONE AT PRETORIA ON 8 APRIL 1997

For the delegation of the Government of Zaire duly mentioned by the Head of State

Mr. Gerard Kamanda wa Kamanda
Deputy Prime Minister and
Minister of Foreign Affairs

For the delegation of the Alliance of Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Congo-Zaire (ADFL)

Dr. Bizima Karaha
General Commissioner for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation duly mandated by the President of ADFL
L. D. Kabila